

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for a server that manages bandwidth of a remote link, comprising:
2 assigning a portion of the bandwidth to at least one application group; and
3 metering packets belonging to the application group.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the server is a VPN server.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the server is directly connected to other links having
2 larger bandwidth than the available bandwidth of the remote link.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the packets belonging to the application group share a
2 pre-defined configuration.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the packets belonging to the application group
2 contend equally for the portion of the bandwidth.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein metering the packets group further includes metering
2 flow rate of the packets going through the server in either direction.

1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein metering the packets further includes rejecting the
2 packets if the flow rate exceeds the portion of the assigned bandwidth.

1 8. The method of claim 1 further comprising allowing a user to specify the bandwidth of
2 the remote link from a user interface.

1 9. The method of claim 1 further comprising allowing a user to specify the portion of
2 the assigned bandwidth from a user interface.

1 10. A system for managing bandwidth of a remote link comprising:
2 a server
3 a contention pool having a portion of the bandwidth for at least one application group;
4 and

5 a meter for metering the packets belonging to the application group.

1 11. The system of claim 10 wherein the server is a VPN server.

1 12. The system of claim 10 wherein the server is directly connected to other links having
2 larger bandwidth than the available bandwidth of the remote link.

1 13. The system of claim 10 wherein the packets belonging to the application group share
2 a pre-defined configuration.

1 14. The system of claim 10 wherein the packets belonging to the application group
2 contend equally for the contention pool.

1 15. The system of claim 10 wherein the meter further meters flow rate of the packets
2 going through the server in either direction.

1 16. The system of claim 15 wherein the meter further rejects the packets if the flow rate
2 exceeds the assigned portion of the bandwidth.

1 17. The system of claim 10 further comprising a user interface that allows a user to
2 specify the bandwidth of the link.

1 18. The system of claim 10 further comprising a user interface that allows a user to
2 specify the assigned portion of the bandwidth.